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BEFORE THE FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of) FPPC No. 10/521
)
)
)
SERGIO CASANOVA AND ALHAMBRA) DEFAULT DECISION AND ORDER
FIREGIGHTER'S PAC,)
)
)
) (Gov. Code §§ 11506 and 11520)
Respondents.)
)

Complainant Roman G. Porter, Executive Director of the Fair Political Practices Commission, hereby submits this Default Decision and Order for consideration by the Fair Political Practices Commission at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

Pursuant to the California Administrative Procedure Act,¹ Respondents Sergio Casanova (Respondent Casanova) and Alhambra Firefighter's PAC (Respondent Committee) have been served with all of the documents necessary to conduct an administrative hearing regarding the above-captioned matter, including the following:

1. An Order Finding Probable Cause;
2. An Accusation;

¹The California Administrative Procedure Act, which governs administrative adjudications, is contained in Sections 11370 through 11529 of the Government Code.

3. A Notice of Defense (Two Copies);
4. A Statement to Respondent; and
5. Copies of Sections 11506, 11507.5, 11507.6 and 11507.7 of the Government Code.

Government Code Section 11506 provides that failure of a respondent to file a Notice of Defense within 15 days after being served with an Accusation shall constitute a waiver of respondent's right to a hearing on the merits of the Accusation. The Statement to Respondent, served on Respondent Casanova and Respondent Committee (Respondents), explicitly stated that a Notice of Defense must be filed in order to request a hearing. Respondents failed to file a Notice of Defense within fifteen days of being served with the Accusation.

Government Code Section 11520 provides that, if the respondent fails to file a Notice of Defense, the Commission may take action, by way of a default, based upon the respondent's express admissions or upon other evidence, and that affidavits may be used as evidence without any notice to the respondent.

Respondents violated the Political Reform Act as described in Exhibit 1, and accompanying declaration, which are attached hereto and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein. Exhibit 1 is a true and accurate summary of the law and evidence in this matter. This Default Decision and Order is submitted to the Commission to obtain a final disposition of this matter.

Dated: _____

Roman G. Porter
Executive Director
Fair Political Practices Commission

ORDER

The Commission issues this Default Decision and Order and imposes an administrative penalty of Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500) upon Respondent Sergio Casanova and Respondent Alhambra Firefighter's PAC, payable to the "General Fund of the State of California."

IT IS SO ORDERED, effective upon execution below by the Chair of the Fair Political Practices Commission at Sacramento, California.

Dated: _____

Ann Ravel, Chair
Fair Political Practices Commission